

# ANIMAL REGULATIONS



## Number of Animals Allowed

The maximum number of cats and dogs allowed per household primarily depends on your zoning codes. Cities each have their own zoning or land use codes. For unincorporated King County, animal zoning is Title 21A of the County Code, which varies the number of allowable pets depending on lot size, whether the animals are dogs and/or cats, if they are kept indoors or outdoors, and if they are spayed or neutered.

Regardless of numbers allowed, all dogs and cats must be individually licensed. Also, in most areas, if zoning allows you to possess more than three pets, a hobby kennel license is required.

## Licensing Your Pets

King County and contracting cities require all dogs and cats eight weeks and older to be licensed annually and for dogs to wear their license tag on their collar or harness. We strongly encourage cats to wear a tag attached to an elastic safety collar.

*For a list of annual license fees, visit our website: [www.kingcounty.gov/pets](http://www.kingcounty.gov/pets).*



Regional Animal  
Services of  King County

## Pet Adoption Center

206-296-PETS (7387)

Toll Free:

800-325-6165

21615 64th Avenue South

Kent, WA 98032

[pets@kingcounty.gov](mailto:pets@kingcounty.gov)

[www.kingcounty.gov/pets](http://www.kingcounty.gov/pets)

## Center Hours

Mon: 3 - 6 p.m.

Tues - Fri: noon - 6 p.m.

Sat - Sun: noon - 5 p.m.



[www.twitter.com/kcpets](https://twitter.com/kcpets)



[www.facebook.com/KCPetsRegionalAnimalShelter](https://www.facebook.com/KCPetsRegionalAnimalShelter)

## Pet Licensing

206-296-2712

500 Fourth Avenue, Room 403

Seattle, WA 98104-2395

Licensing your pet is easy and an inexpensive insurance policy for your pet's safety and protection. Pet licensing is also required by law. Currently there are over 125 licensing locations. Call or visit [www.kingcounty.gov/pets](http://www.kingcounty.gov/pets) for one near you or simply click on the Quick Link to license online.



King County



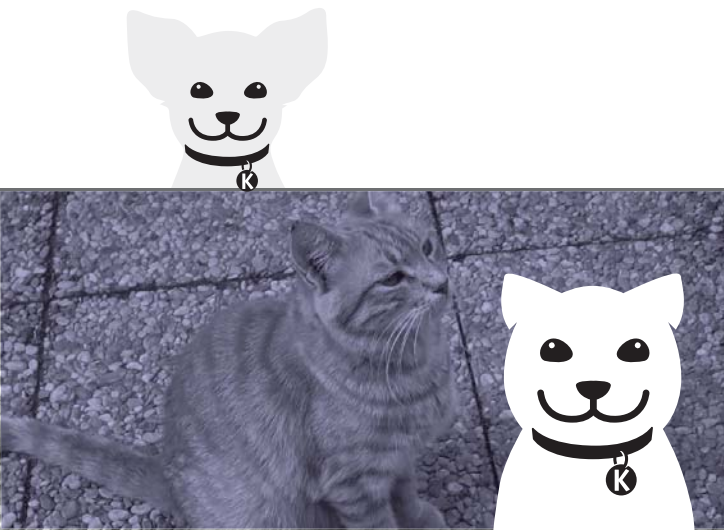
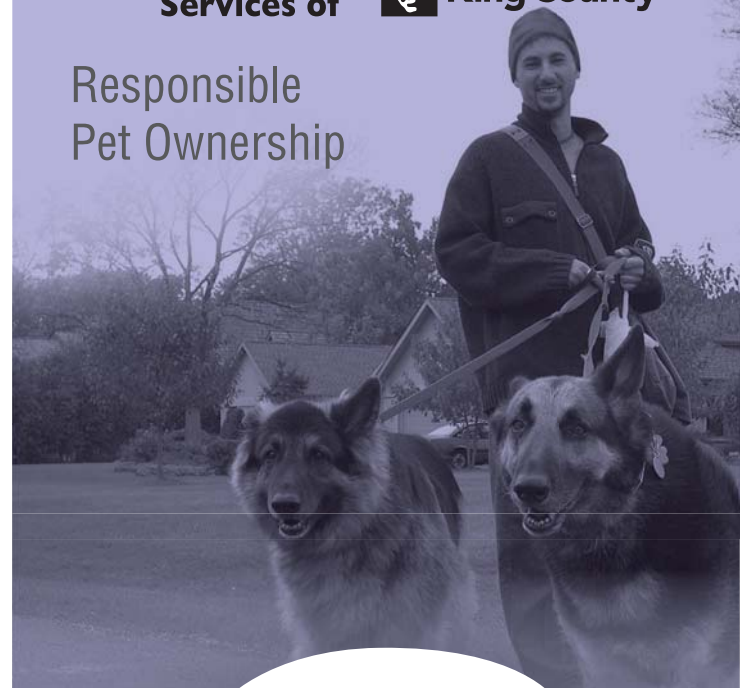
Regional Animal Services of King County provides animal sheltering and field services to contracting cities within King County, and the unincorporated areas.  
RAS 006 (REV 03/13) 1202M

Regional Animal  
Services of



King County

Responsible  
Pet Ownership





## The Law

Regional Animal Services of King County (RASKC) provides animal control services and enforcement for all of unincorporated King County and 25 contracting cities.

## Reasons for Impound

- Animal running at large is when your animal is off your property and not under your immediate control either by voice, or by leash in leash law areas
- Animal trespassing means your animal is on another's private property without permission
- No valid pet license on animal
- Animals with vicious propensities: Animals that have threatened, attacked, bitten or attempted to bite a person, or presented an apparent attitude of attack are subject to impound and possible quarantine
- Cruelty or neglect

## Animal Bites and Dangerous Dogs

All animals that have bitten, breaking the skin, must be quarantined. Animal bites should be reported to RASKC. Animals threatening, attacking, or otherwise posing a threat to public safety may be deemed dangerous. Report all bites and aggressive animals by calling 206-296-PETS (7387).

## Barking

It is unlawful to maintain an animal that barks, or makes other oral noises, to an unreasonable degree creating a disturbance to others.

## Rabies

King County Code and State laws require all dogs and cats six months of age and older be vaccinated against rabies. Rabies vaccination is important for your pets' protection and for public health concerns.

## Claiming Impounded Pets

### License your pets! It is the law!

Impounded, stray / unlicensed animals will be held for 72 hours to allow owners to redeem them. Licensed pets are held for longer periods. The first time a licensed animal is impounded, we will give it a "free ride home". We will attempt to return the animal home prior to it being taken to the animal shelter. The impound fee is waived for an animal's first impound if it is currently licensed.

A daily recorded roster of impounded animals can be heard by calling 206-296-PETS (press 311 for dogs, 312 for cats). In addition, [www.petharbor.com](http://www.petharbor.com) provides an online tool for missing pets, however, not all pets may be displayed. Cities in North King County also impound to PAWS ([paws.org](http://paws.org)); please check with them as well. It remains the responsibility of the owner to locate missing pets. Pet owners are encouraged to visit the shelter and physically check for a missing pet at least every 72 hours.

## Leash Laws

Unincorporated King County and most contracting cities have a leash law. What does this mean? This means that your dog must be leashed at any time it is off your property. In some rural areas of King County, your dog must be under verbal control. This means that you must accompany your dog when off premises and have verbal control of your dog at all times.



## Parks

Animals may visit most public parks. All animals must be leashed and controlled while in public parks. Animals may be exercised off their leash only in designated areas in some parks. Check each park for specific rules.

## Services Provided by RASKC

- Licensing Pets
- Rescue sick and injured animals
- Control vicious and dangerous animals
- Impound stray animals
- Investigate cruelty complaints
- Round up stray and loose livestock
- Enforce animal ordinances and quarantine orders
- Assist and educate public in animal related problems

## Be Considerate of Others

- Abide by all state and local animal laws.
- License your pet.
- Maintain control of your pet so it will not be a nuisance to others.
- Spay or neuter your pet to prevent unwanted litters.
- Always remove your pet's waste quickly to prevent health hazards. Remember, children may play in areas where animals have been.

